

## REMARKS

This communication is in response to Office Action mailed November 8, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response which expires February 8, 2005. In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks that follow, please reconsider and allow the application to issue.

### Objection to Drawings

The Office objects to Figure 4 for allegedly being illegible. To address the objection, Applicant submits herewith a Replacement Drawing. The Examiner is requested to consider and approve the Replacement Drawing.

### Formal Rejections

Claims 2 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. While Applicant disagrees with the grounds of this rejection, claims 2 and 10 have been cancelled to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, the rejection is moot.

### Substantive Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-20 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,744,296. The Examiner objects to claims 3, 6, 11 and 12 as being dependent on a rejected claim. The Examiner states that claims 3, 6, 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

While not acceding with propriety of the anticipation rejection, and to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended the claims to place the application in condition for

allowance. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate recitation of allowable claim 3. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Accordingly, applicant submits that claim 1, as amended herein, and all other claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

New claim 13 has been added to include the recitation of allowable claim 6, its base claim and any intervening claim. New claims 14-21 have been added to depend from claim 13. Applicant submits that new claim 13 and all other claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Finally, independent claim 22 includes the recitation of allowable claim 11, its base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 23 has been added to depend from claim 22. Applicant submits that claim 22 and claim 23 are in condition for allowance.

### CONCLUSION

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any issue relating to this application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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